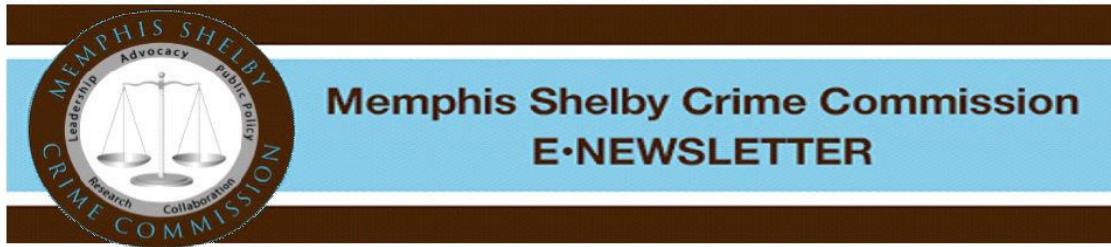


From: "Memphis Shelby Crime Commision" <lrussell@memphiscrime.org>  
To: "William Gibbons (wgibbons)" <wgibbons@memphis.edu>  
Date: 9/28/2017 7:36:01 PM  
Subject: [Test] Symposium - A Focus on Reducing Delinquency

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September 2017 - Volume 10



## SYMPOSIUM TO EXPLORE APPROACH REDUCING DELINQUENCY

A key objective of the Operation: Safe Community crime plan is creation of a juvenile assessment center to which juveniles accused of certain types of delinquent acts would be transferred or transported rather than to Juvenile Court.

The approach is patterned after efforts in other communities such as Miami/Dade County, Florida and Denver, Colorado and is designed to address more effectively causes behind delinquent behavior.

So far this year, delinquent (criminal) incidents for which juveniles have been charged have increased over 2016. And about 40 percent of juveniles charged with delinquent offenses are repeat offenders.

The juvenile assessment center concept is designed to (1) move juveniles in the right direction before they become repeat offenders by assessing and addressing underlying needs, and (2) reduce the level of juvenile crime, making our community safer as a result.

The Public Safety Institute at the University of Memphis is co-sponsoring with the Urban Child Institute a Symposium on Breaking the Cycle of Delinquency on Tuesday, October 17 in the University Center Ballroom on the main University of Memphis campus from 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The Symposium will be an opportunity to share with stakeholders and interested citizens throughout the community the juvenile assessment center concept.

Symposium participants include nationally recognized juvenile justice leader Jack Calhoun; Deputy to the Governor Jim Henry; Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell;

Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland; Juvenile Court Judge Dan Michael; District Attorney Amy Weirich; Altha Stewart, M.D., Director of the Center for Health in Justice Involved Youth of UTHSC; Memphis Police Director Michael Rallings; and Gregory Washington, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Social Work at the University of Memphis.

Registration and parking is free, space is limited, and the deadline for registration is October 10. To register, go to [www.memphis.edu/psi](http://www.memphis.edu/psi).

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## COMMUNITY SURVEY SHOWS STRONG SUPPORT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

As part of the Operation: Safe Community crime plan, Shelby County Government spearheaded an online survey of citizens to gage their opinions of law enforcement.

A total of 317 citizens responded to the survey. We note that the respondents are not demographically representative of Shelby County, in particular, as to age. Of the respondents, 43.2 percent were 60 years of age or older, and another 25.5 percent were 50-59 years of age. The percentage of respondents continues to go down as the age goes down. 54.1 percent of the respondents described themselves as white/Caucasian, 39.8 percent as black/African American, and 6.1 percent as something else. 43.2 percent of respondents said they were part of a neighborhood watch group, and 56.8 percent said they were not.

When asked how, overall, they rate police services in their neighborhood, the following was the breakdown:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
16.7%	29.0%	32.5%	15.5%	6.3%

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the following statements about law enforcement in Memphis and Shelby County. The following is a summary of responses by percentage:

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I respect law enforcement.	01.2%	30.0%	5.7%	1.6%	1.6%
My friends and neighbors generally respect the law.	39.1%	45.1%	10.7%	2.8%	2.3%
Law Enforcement does not have all the tools it needs to effectively fight crime.	36.3%	32.2%	21.5%	7.3%	2.8%
Law enforcement has the safety of citizens as its top priority.	29.3%	43.2%	15.1%	7.6%	4.7%

Officers use excessive force to often.	9.5%	17.4%	33.1%	25.9%	14.2%
Law enforcement is generally fair to everyone.	12.3%	41.0%	23.0%	15.8%	7.9%
Law enforcement unfairly targets certain groups.	15.8%	21.1%	27.1%	24.3%	11.7%



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